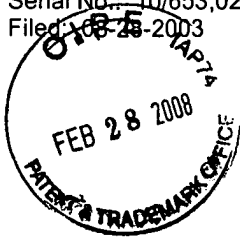



03-08-08

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
SIDS TRANSMITTAL

In re Application of: Schaller, et al.
For: TISSUE CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHODS
Serial No.: 10/653,027
Filed: 10/28/2003



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8 I hereby certify that this **SIDS Transmittal** and the paper(s), as described herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 28 day of February, 2008.



Signature
Diane M. Anderson

Printed Name


Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS)
- ☒ PTO FORM 1449
- ☒ Copies of cited non-US Patent documents
- ☒ Return Postcard
- ☒ Please charge **\$180.00** to Deposit Account No. 13-2546 for the filing of the SIDS.
- ☒ Please charge any fees or credits to Deposit Account No. 13-2546 which may have been overlooked on this SIDS Transmittal with regard to this filing.

2/28/08
Date



James R. Keogh, Reg. No. 44,824
Telephone: (763) 505-8424
Customer No.: 27581



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Laurent Schaller, et al.

Examiner: Julian W. Woo

Serial No.: 10/653,027


Group Art Unit: 3773

Filing Date: 08-28-2003

Docket No.: P-21544.02

Title: TISSUE CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 28 day of February, 2008.



Signature
Diane M. Anderson

Printed Name

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with C.F.R. §§ 1.97 *et. seq.*, the materials enclosed herewith are brought to the attention of the Examiner as possibly being of interest in connection with the above-identified patent application.

Consideration of each of the documents listed on the attached Form 1449 is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. §609, Applicant further requests that a copy of the Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next Official Communication.

03/04/2009 1508202 001000067 132546 10653027
01 FC:1006 100.03 DA

Copies of all non-U.S. Patent documents are enclosed except for the following document:

DE 0377052 06-1923

A copy of this document was not available after a diligent search. Applicants believe that a copy of this document should be available in U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 08/781,577, filed on Jan. 9, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,879,371.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

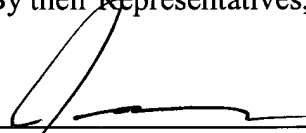
Applicants assert that nothing herein is intended to be construed as an admission as to whether a document constitutes prior art to the present application. Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.31-1.132, or otherwise, to establish that the document(s) are not "prior art."

Please charge the \$180.00 fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(p) for the submission of this information disclosure statement to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurent Schaller, et al.
By their Representatives,

Dated: 2/28/08

By: 

James R. Keogh
Reg. No. 44,824
MEDTRONIC, INC.
710 Medtronic Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55432
Tel. 763.505.8424
Fax. 763.505.8436

Customer No.: 27581